

## SUMMARY

HA-1575

Samuel Famous House  
3710 Rock Run Road  
Havre de Grace, Maryland 21078

Located in the Village of Level, this 2-story frame house was built between 1883 and 1885 by Samuel C. Famous on a lot purchased from Edson and Emma Foard, owners of the adjacent blacksmith shop. Along with Foard's Blacksmith Shop, the Annie Stearn House, Bradfield's store, and several other buildings, this house, a type commonly built from the middle of the 19th century through the beginning of the 20th century in Harford County, represents Level as it was at the turn of the century.

MAGI # 1315755604

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Samuel Famous House

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

3710 Rock Run Road, in Level (North side of Rock Run Rd., just east of intersection

CITY, TOWN

with Old Level Rd.)

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

STATE

COUNTY

**3 CLASSIFICATION****CATEGORY**☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT**OWNERSHIP**☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED**STATUS**☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS**ACCESSIBLE**☐ YES, RESTRICTED☐ YES, UNRESTRICTED☒ NO**PRESENT USE**☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mr. and Mrs. John Hall

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

3710 Rock Run Road

CITY, TOWN

Havre de Grace, Md.

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code  
21078**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

40 South Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air,

STATE  
Maryland 21014**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

NP-1575

**CONDITION**

☐ EXCELLENT  
☐ GOOD  
☒ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

☐ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

---

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This 2-story frame house with a center front gable is located on the north side of Rock Run Rd., just east of the intersection of Old Level Road, at Level.

Set on a raised stone foundation, the house faces south and is covered in asbestos siding. It measures 26'5" by 16'4" and has a shed-roofed, 14'4" by 10'2" addition on the north side and a 7'3" by 8'4" 1-room wing on the north side of that. The roof has a raked cornice with a molded barge board. The 3-bay wide south facade is spanned by a 1-story hip-roofed porch with turned posts and a railing with square balusters. Windows have 2/2 sash and beaded trim; the center front gable holds a round-arched window. There is a single brick chimney located slightly west of center.

Northeast of the house is a 1-story, board and batten, gable-roofed shed, which opens to the south.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Located in the Village of Level, this 2-story frame house was built between 1883 and 1885 by Samuel C. Famous. In 1883, Famous purchased a 45 square perch lot for \$50 from Edson and Emma Foard, owners of the adjacent blacksmith shop.<sup>1</sup> Two years later Steward Famous paid \$500 for the lot in, as it was called then, Hopewell X Roads Village.<sup>2</sup> From 1892 until 1917, John and Caroline Akers owned the house, from 1917 until 1921 Nelson and Alevia Bowman,<sup>4</sup> and until 1977 Stevenson Smith, and then his daughter Hazel Sheridan.<sup>5</sup>

The house is a typical frame house with a center front gable, a type built from the mid-19th century through the first quarter of the 20th century. Along with Foard's Blacksmith Shop, Annie Stearn's house, the Charles Taylor house, Bradfield's store, and several other buildings, it represents the Village of Level as it was at the beginning of the 20th century.

1. Liber ALJ49, Folio 366
2. Liber ALJ 52, Folio 141
3. Liber WSF 75, Folio 113
4. Liber JAR 155, Folio 231
5. Liber 1046, Folio 7

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

AA-575

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Land, will and equity records of Harford County  
Interview with Wm. Foard, 7/80  
Interview with Annie Stearn, 7/80

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Natalie Shivers, Historic Site Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Harford County Department of Planning and Zoning

DATE

8/80

STREET & NUMBER

45 South Main Street

TELEPHONE

838-6000 ext. 207

CITY OR TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland 21014

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

# SAMUEL FAMOUS HOUSE

## Title Search

HA-1575

1.	1046/7	November 2, 1977	Grantor: Hazel I. Sheridan, Doris S. Deaner Grantee: John O. and Christine E. Hall Acreage: 0.28125A
2. GRG	429/362	January 31, 1955	Grantor: H. Elizabeth Esley Grantee: Hazel I. Sheridan, Doris S. Deaner Acreage: 45 Sq. p.
3.	429/360	January 31, 1955	Grantor: Hazel I. Sheridan Grantee: H. Elizabeth Esley Acreage: 45 Sq. p.
4. DGW	201/93	Sept. 8, 1926	Grantor: John Baird Grantee: Alfred F. and Hazel I. Sheridan Acreage: 45 Sq. p. (Hazel Smith inherited from father Stevenson A. Smith)
5. DGW	201/93	Sept. 8, 1926	Grantor: Hazel I. and Alfred F. Sheridan Grantee: John Baird Acreage: 45 Sq. p.
6. JAR	173/382	August 4, 1921	Grantor: Nielson J. and Olevia C. Bowman Grantee: Stevenson A. & Carrie M. Smith Acreage: 45 Sq. p. in Level
7. JAR	155/231	April 21, 1917	Grantor: Harry S. Carver, Assignee Grantee: Nelson J. Bowman Sum: \$1100 Acreage: 45 Sq. p. in Level
8. WSF	120/365	April 1, 1907	Grantor: Caroline A. Akers Grantee: Elizabeth Weikert Sum: \$950 Acreage: parcel at Level p.o.
9. WSF	75/113	Nov. 19, 1892	Grantor: Samuel C. and Mary E. Famous Grantee: Caroline A. Akers Acreage: in Hopewell X Rds.
10. ALJ	54/164	July 3, 1885	Grantor: Steward Famous Grantee: Mary E. Famous Sum: \$650 Acreage: parcel in Hopewell Cross Roads
11. ALJ	52/141	March 10, 1885	Grantor: Samuel C. & Elizabeth Famous Grantee: Steward Famous Sum: \$500 Acreage: parcel in Hopewell X Rds. Village

(continued)

SAMUEL FAMOUS HOUSE

TITLE SEARCH (CONT'D)

HA-1575

12. ALJ 49/366

April 26, 1883

Grantor: Edson H. and Emma V. Foard

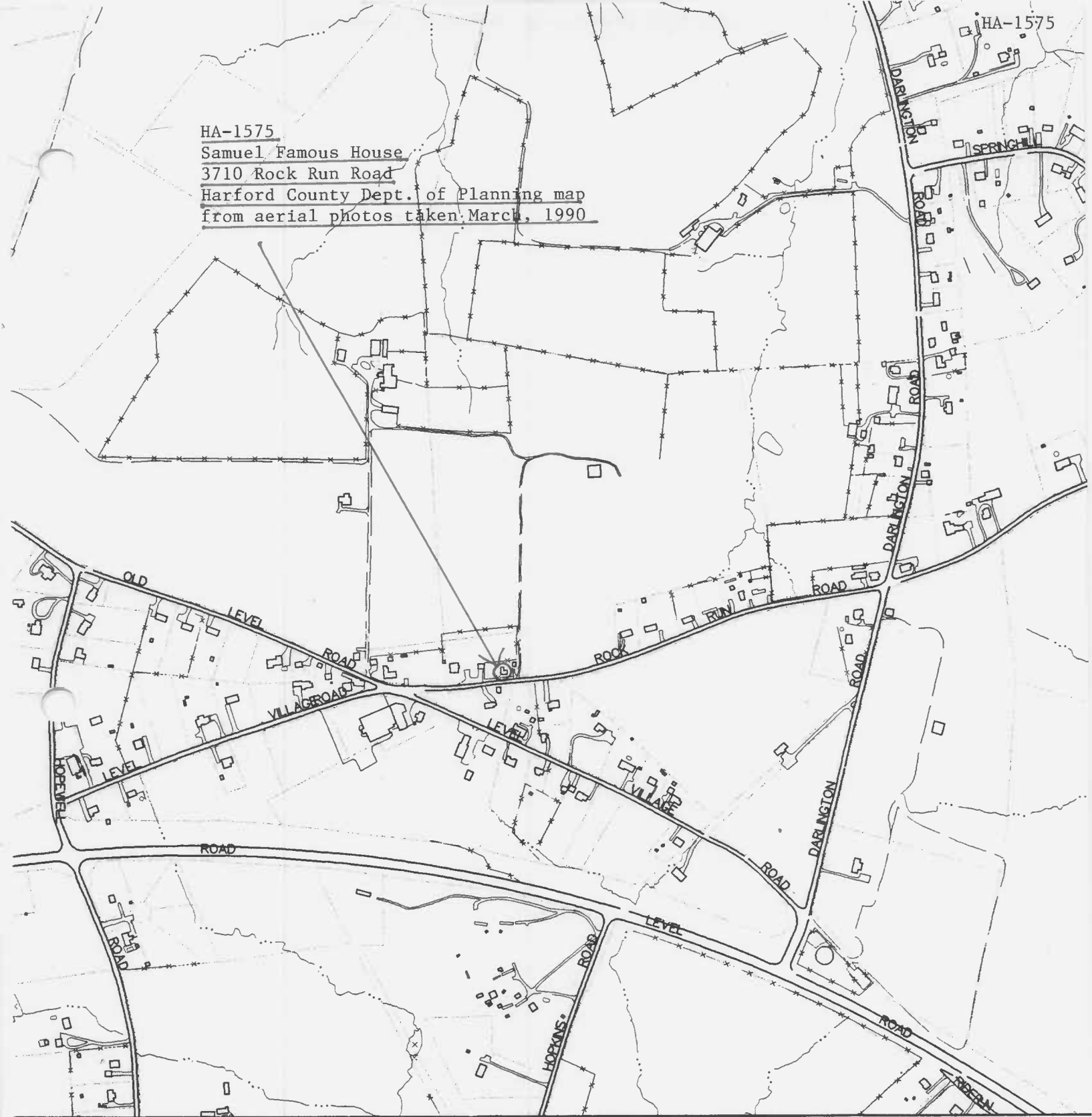
Mary E. Silver Mortgagee

Grantee: Samuel C. Famous

Sum: \$50

Acreage: parcel in Hopewell X Rds. Village  
45 sq. p.

HA-1575  
Samuel Famous House  
3710 Rock Run Road  
Harford County Dept. of Planning map  
from aerial photos taken March, 1990



Historic Area  
Maryland



Aberdeen USGS  
Quadrangle Map

HA-1575





Samuel Famous House - HA-1575  
Havre de Grace, Md. 21078  
4/80  
Natalie Shivers  
South